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Finance Committee Minutes 09-13-04

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
 MINUTES OF MEETING
 7:30 PM Jefferson Cutter House
 9/13/04

ATTENDEES:

McGaffigan		O'Riordan*	O'Neill*	Mahoney*
DeCoursey*	Connors*	Simmons*	Morrisette*	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Deyst*	Ronan	
Piandes*	Franclemont*	Jones*	Olsen*	
DuBois*	Howard*	Fanning*		Kneeland*

* Indicates present

VISITORS: Planning Director Kevin O'Brien, Elizabeth Carr-Jones, Joe Tulimieri, Paul Bayer, Town Counsel John Maher

VOTED to accept minutes of 9/8 as printed. Unanimous

9/20 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLES

ART 2 SYMMES REZONING: Foskett, using a handout reviewed the previous actions of the Town which all included use of taxes from the Symmes development to help pay the development costs. He stated his belief that whether the bonds are paid immediately (with possible impact on General Fund for Town incremental expenses) or stretched out (at higher interest expense) is a BOS & Treasurer policy decision. He reviewed spreadsheet projections showing how these options might play out. The incremental expense estimates are conservative (large). O'Brien stated that an MOB is likely. Several members stated that approval of these zoning changes should follow directly from previous Town Meeting votes. **VOTED** to remove a motion to support ARB from table. Unanimous **VOTED** to support the ARB recommended vote. 15-0.

ART 3 HOME RULE PETITION/SYMMES SPECIAL ACCOUNT: Foskett reviewed the recommended vote he drafted for the BOS (Exhibit 8 in his handout). All Symmes (building permits) would be used first to pay bond costs. After some discussion, **VOTED** to support the BOS recommended vote (assumed to be similar to Exhibit 8). Unanimous

ART 5 TRAFFIC STUDY: Foskett reviewed a recommended vote (see handout) that would direct the TAC to decide whether another traffic study is required. If required, they could request funds from first the Symmes project and then the Reserve Fund. In the ensuing discussion, some members thought the FinCom should recommend no action based on what is already known. Others thought a more positive vote that left the decision in technical hands was more prudent. Another concern was that this topic would bog down the project if not defused. Carr-Jones who had just come from the ARB-TACC meeting thought the TAC was leaning toward no additional study. **VOTED** to recommend a vote as worded in the handout. 12-4.

ELECTIONS: Last year's officers were reelected unanimously: Chair Allan Tosti; Vice Chairs Abigail DuBois, Richard Fanning, Charles Foskett; Secretary Peter Howard

TOWN DAY: The Chair thanked the members who set up & manned the booth. Effort considered worth while. Should

consider a more eye catching approach next year.

COMMITTEE: Kneeland to advertize for people to fill open slots in Pct 6 & 20. Next mtg 9/20 7:30PM Hearing Room before Twn Mtg.

Peter B Howard, Secretary, 9/1/04

cc Selectmen, FinCom Members, Library file, Town Manager, Town Web Site